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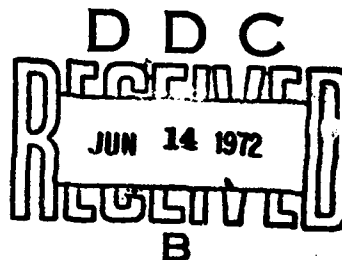
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UNSTABLE LINEAR DIFFERENTIAL GAMES

by
M. S. Nikol'skiy

USSR



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§1. Suppose the motion of n -dimensional vector z , in Euclidean space R^n , is described by a linear vector differential equation

$$\dot{z} = A(t) z - u + v, \quad (1)$$

where $A(t)$ is a quadratic matrix of order n , continually dependent on t ($-\infty < t < +\infty$); the control parameters u and v belong to the convex compacts $P(t)$, $Q(t)$ respectively, which are embedded in R^n and change continually over ($-\infty < t < +\infty$). Parameter u is controlled by the pursuer; parameter v -- by the evader. Suppose a convex closed terminal set M is fixed in R^n . Pursuit begins from point $z_0 \notin M$ at moment t_0 and is considered completed when $z(t)$ (see (1)) first contacts M .

The goal of the pursuer is to bring point $z(t)$ to M as rapidly as possible. It is assumed that the pursuer knows $z(t)$ and $v(t)$ at each moment in time t , i.e. pursuit with discrimination of the evader is studied. The evader acts arbitrarily, using measurable control $v(t)$, which follows the requirement $v(t) \in Q(t)$.

We will say that game (1) can be completed from position (z_0, t_0) in a finite time if there is a number t (z_0, t_0) such that with any measurable change $v(t)$ the pursuer, using his information, can construct a measurable change $u(t)$ ($u(t) \in P(t)$), such that point $z(t)$ strikes M not later than moment $t_0 + t(z_0, t_0)$.

One of the most important problems arising in the theory of pursuit is the problem of separation of those points (z_0, t_0) from which the game can be completed in a finite time. Strong results have been produced in this direction for stable games (see [1-7] and others). The most complete results have been produced by L. S. Pontryagin in [4]. They were produced by a direct method with

a wider area of application than that of the first direct method developed in [3].

The present article is dedicated to a generalization of the second direct method of L. S. Pontryagin (see [4]) to the unstable case (see (1)).

§2. In this paragraph, we will introduce certain concepts which will be useful for the future.

A. Let $U(\tau)$ be a convex compact belonging to R^n , continually dependent on τ in sector $[p, q]$, where $p \leq q$. Let us study all possible measurable vector functions $u(\cdot)$ in $[p, q]$, satisfying the condition $u(\tau) \in U(\tau)$. Let us study the set of vector integrals $\int_p^q u(\tau) d\tau$ and represent it by $\int_p^q U(\tau) d\tau$. It is not difficult to see that this set is a convex limited set. Using [8], it is not difficult to prove that $\int_p^q U(\tau) d\tau$ is a closed set. Thus, we have the operation of integration of a closed set dependent on a parameter.

B. The geometric difference of two convex sets M_1, M_2 , belonging to R^n refers (see [3]) to the set M_3 , which consists of all vectors a translating M_2 into M_1 , i.e. $a + M_2 \subset M_1$. This operation is represented as: $M_3 = M_1 \dot{-} M_2$. It is not difficult to show that closure of M_3 indicates closure of M_3 .

C. Suppose M_1, M_2 are arbitrary sets from R^n . The algebraic sum of these sets refers to the set M_3 of all vectors a of the form $a_3 = a_1 + a_2$, where $a_1 \in M_1, a_2 \in M_2$, and will be written as $M_3 = M_1 + M_2$.

D. In [4], L. S. Pontryagin introduced the concept of the alternative integral from $U(\tau), V(\tau)$, belonging to R^n and changing continually over the sector $[p, q]$ ($p \leq q$) of convex compacts with the initial closed convex set

B. This integral is represented by the symbol $\int_{U, p}^q [U(\tau) d\tau \dot{-} V(\tau) d\tau]$.

We require the altered interval

$$\int_{L, p}^q [U(\tau) d\tau \dot{-} V(\tau) d\tau], \quad (2)$$

fixing not the initial integration set, but rather the final integration set. In constructing integral (2), we will base ourselves on rational subdivisions ω of sector $[p, q]$ by means of points $p = \tau_0 < \tau_1 < \dots < \tau_k = q$, where $\tau_1, \dots, \tau_{k-1}$ are rational numbers. This rational subdivision ω is compared

with the convex set

$$\Sigma_{\omega} = \left(\left(\left(B + \int_{\tau_{k-1}}^{\tau_k} U(\tau) d\tau \right) * \int_{\tau_{k-1}}^{\tau_k} V(\tau) d\tau \right) + \right. \\ \left. + \int_{\tau_{k-2}}^{\tau_{k-1}} U(\tau) d\tau \right) * \int_{\tau_{k-2}}^{\tau_{k-1}} V(\tau) d\tau + \dots, \quad (3)$$

which we will call the integral sum.

By integral (2), we refer to the intersection of sets Σ_{ω} with respect to all rational divisions ω :

$$\bigcap_{\omega} \int_p^q [U(\tau) d\tau * V(\tau) d\tau] = \bigcap_{\omega} \Sigma_{\omega}. \quad (4)$$

We note that the existence of integral (2) as a non-empty set requires non-emptiness of all Σ_{ω} . If $\bigcap_{\omega} \Sigma_{\omega}$ is not empty, the altered integral (2) is a closed convex set.

Suppose integral (2) is not empty and rational point $t_1 \in (p, q)$ is selected on sector $[p, q]$. Let us study the rational divisions ω' of the form $p = \tau_0 < \tau_1 = t_1 < \tau_2 < \dots < \tau_k = q$.

Obviously,

$$\bigcap_{\omega} \Sigma_{\omega} \subset \bigcap_{\omega'} \Sigma_{\omega'}. \quad (5)$$

Let us study the rational subdivision ω'' of sector $[t_1, q]$, generated by subdivision ω' . It follows from formula (3) that

$$\Sigma_{\omega''} = \left(\Sigma_{\omega'} + \int_p^{t_1} U(\tau) d\tau \right) * \int_p^{t_1} V(\tau) d\tau. \quad (6)$$

Rational subdivisions ω'' are always even numbers. They can be renumbered: $\omega_1'', \omega_2'', \dots$. Let us represent by μ_i ($i = 1, 2, \dots$) the rational subdivision produced by combining the points of the subdivisions $\omega_1'', \dots, \omega_i''$. The integral sum (3) corresponding to rational subdivision μ_i will be represented by Σ_{μ_i} .

Work [4] gives the following formulas:

$$(A \pm U) \pm V = A \pm (U + V), \quad (A + U) \pm V \supset (A \pm V) + U,$$

where A, U, V are convex sets in R^n . Using definition Σ_{μ_i} and these formulas, it is not difficult to show that $\Sigma_{\mu_1} \supset \Sigma_{\mu_2} \supset \dots$ and that

$$\int_{t_1}^{t_2} [U(\tau) d\tau \pm V(\tau) d\tau] = \bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} \Sigma_{\mu_i}. \quad (7)$$

Let us show that

$$\bigcap_{\omega} \Sigma_{\omega} \subset \left(\bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} \Sigma_{\mu_i} + \int_p^{t_1} U(\tau) d\tau \right) \pm \int_p^{t_1} V(\tau) d\tau. \quad (8)$$

Let us study the rational subdivision of sector $[p, q]$ ω_i' , generated by point t_1 (t_1 is a rational number) and subdivisions μ_i . Obviously $\bigcap_{\omega} \Sigma_{\omega} \subset \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} \Sigma_{\omega_i'}$.

To prove inclusion (8), it is sufficient to prove inclusion

$$\bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} \Sigma_{\omega_i'} \subset \left(\bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} \Sigma_{\mu_i} + \int_p^{t_1} U(\tau) d\tau \right) \pm \int_p^{t_1} V(\tau) d\tau. \quad (9)$$

Let us study point ξ_0 , satisfying the condition $\xi_0 \in \bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} \Sigma_{\omega_i'}$. Due to equation (6), this inclusion indicates the relationship

$$\xi_0 \pm \int_p^{t_1} V(\tau) d\tau \subset \Sigma_{\mu_i} + \int_p^{t_1} U(\tau) d\tau,$$

which is correct with any $i = 1, 2, \dots$. It follows from this that for any given measurable vector function $v(\tau)$, $p \leq \tau \leq t_1$ ($v(\tau) \in V(\tau)$), a measurable vector function $u_i(\tau)$, $p \leq \tau \leq t_1$ ($u_i(\tau) \in U(\tau)$), can be found such that

$$\xi_0 \pm \int_p^{t_1} v(\tau) d\tau = \int_p^{t_1} u_i(\tau) d\tau + \eta_i \in \Sigma_{\mu_i}. \quad (10)$$

On the strength of the assumed continuity of sets $U(\tau)$, $V(\tau)$ in sector $[p, q]$, the estimate $|\eta_i| \leq \text{const}$ is correct for η_i . Therefore, it can be considered that a certain subsequence of vectors η_i , which we will represent by η_{i_k} , converges to a certain vector η^* . The embeddedness of closed sets Σ_{μ_i} indicates $\eta^* \in \bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} \Sigma_{\mu_i}$.

We can consider that subsequence $u_{i_k}(\cdot)$ converges weakly in sector $[p, t_1]$ to a certain function $u_0(\cdot)$ ($u_0(\tau) \in U(\tau)$). Then from equation (10) it follows easily that

$$\xi_0 + \int_p^{t_1} v(\tau) d\tau - \int_p^{t_1} u_0(\tau) d\tau = \eta^* \in \bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} \Sigma_{\mu_i}.$$

From this we get

$$\xi_0 \in \left(\bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} \Sigma_{\mu_i} + \int_p^{t_1} U(\tau) d\tau \right) \pm \int_p^{t_1} V(\tau) d\tau,$$

i.e. inclusion (9) is proven and, consequently, inclusion (8) is proven. Using inclusion (5) and equations (4), (7), we produce an important formula:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_p^{B,q} [U(\tau) d\tau \pm V(\tau) d\tau] \subset & \left(\int_{t_1}^{B,q} [U(\tau) d\tau \pm V(\tau) d\tau] + \right. \\ & \left. \int_p^{t_1} U(\tau) d\tau \right) \pm \int_p^{t_1} V(\tau) d\tau, \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

where t_1 is either any rational number in $[p, q]$, or a number corresponding with one of the ends of $[p, q]$.

The following will be useful in producing further properties of the altered integral (2).

E. Let $\mathcal{U}_1(s)$, $\mathcal{U}_2(s)$ be convex compacts from R^n , dependent on parameter s . Suppose in a certain area of point s_0 , set $\mathcal{U}_1(s) \pm \mathcal{U}_2(s)$ is not empty, while at point $\mathcal{U}_1(s)$, it is upward semicontinuous relative to inclusions (see [8]); $\mathcal{U}_2(s)$ is continuous. We then have the following

Lemma. The set $\mathfrak{B}_1(s) \subseteq \mathfrak{B}_2(s)$ is upper semicontinuous relative to inclusions at point s_0 .

The proof of the lemma is simple, and we will not present it.

F. Let us represent integral (2) as a function of the lower limit of p through $B(p)$. Let us assume in formula (11) - $p + t_1 = \varepsilon$. Then inclusion (11) can be rewritten as:

$$B(p) \subset \left(B(p + \varepsilon) + \int_p^{p+\varepsilon} U(\tau) d\tau \right) \cup \int_p^{p+\varepsilon} V(\tau) d\tau, \quad (12)$$

where $p + \varepsilon$ is either any rational number from sector $[p, q]$ or one of the ends of sector $[p, q]$.

Let us prove that inclusion (12) is correct with any $p + \varepsilon$ belonging to sector $[p, q]$.

Let us study the sequence of numbers $p_i \leq p$ such that $p_i + \varepsilon \in [p, q]$, $p_i + \varepsilon$ is a rational number and $p_i + \varepsilon \rightarrow p + \varepsilon$, where $p + \varepsilon$ is an arbitrary fixed number from interval (p, q) . From inclusion (12)

$$B(p) + \int_p^{p_i+\varepsilon} V(\tau) d\tau \subset B(p_i + \varepsilon) + \int_p^{p_i+\varepsilon} U(\tau) d\tau. \quad (13)$$

Let us study a certain rational subdivision ω of sector $[p + \varepsilon, q]$, generated by points $p + \varepsilon = \tau_0 < \tau_1 < \tau_2 < \dots < \tau_k = q$, and rational subdivisions ω_i ($i = 1, 2, \dots$) of sector $[p_i + \varepsilon, q]$, generated by points $p_i + \varepsilon = \tau_0^i < \tau_1^i < \tau_2^i < \dots < \tau_k^i = q$. Thus, subdivisions ω and ω_i differ only in their left point.

Let us represent by Σ_ω and Σ_{ω_i} ($i = 1, 2, \dots$) the integral sums (3), corresponding to divisions ω, ω_i with finite set B . It follows from inclusion (13) that

$$B(p) + \int_p^{p_i+\varepsilon} V(\tau) d\tau \subset \Sigma_{\omega_i} + \int_p^{p_i+\varepsilon} U(\tau) d\tau, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots$$

Let us take arbitrary vector $b \in B(p)$. It follows from the inclusion produced

$$b + \int_p^{p+\varepsilon} V(\tau) d\tau \subset \Sigma_{\omega_i} + \int_p^{p+\varepsilon} U(\tau) d\tau. \quad (14)$$

Using the definition of the operation $*$, formula (3), the even limited nature of sets $U(\tau)$, $V(\tau)$ in sector $[p, q]$ and inclusion (14), we can prove the inclusion

$$b + \int_p^{p+\varepsilon} V(\tau) d\tau \subset \Sigma_{\omega_i}(B_1) + \int_p^{p+\varepsilon} U(\tau) d\tau, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, \quad (15)$$

where B_1 is a convex compact belonging to B , while $\Sigma_{\omega_i}(B_1)$ is an integral sum constructed with respect to subdivision ω_i but with finite set B_1 . This statement is trivial when B is limited and interesting when B is unlimited.

Using the lemma of point "E" and inclusion (15), it is not difficult to produce the relationship

$$b + \int_p^{p+\varepsilon} V(\tau) d\tau \subset \Sigma_{\omega}(B_1) + \int_p^{p+\varepsilon} U(\tau) d\tau \subset \Sigma_{\omega} + \int_p^{p+\varepsilon} U(\tau) d\tau, \quad (16)$$

where $\Sigma_{\omega}(B_1)$ is an integral sum corresponding to rational subdivision ω , with finite set B_1 .

Earlier in point "D" we showed that the altered integral (2) can be produced as the intersection of integral sums Σ_{μ_i} ($i = 1, 2, \dots$), forming a sequence of sets embedded in each other $\Sigma_{\mu_1} \supset \Sigma_{\mu_2} \supset \dots$. Taking such a sequence of subdivision μ_i ($i = 1, 2, \dots$) as the ω in inclusion (16), we produce

$$b + \int_p^{p+\varepsilon} V(\tau) d\tau \subset \Sigma_{\mu_i} + \int_p^{p+\varepsilon} U(\tau) d\tau.$$

Using the limited nature of closed set $\int_p^{p+\varepsilon} U(\tau) d\tau$, the embeddedness of the closed sets Σ_{μ_i} and the equation $B(p+\varepsilon) = \bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} \Sigma_{\mu_i}$, it is not difficult to prove that

$$b + \int_p^{p+\varepsilon} V(\tau) d\tau \subset B(p+\varepsilon) + \int_p^{p+\varepsilon} U(\tau) d\tau.$$

Since b is an arbitrary element from $B(p)$, inclusion (12) is proven for arbitrary point $p + \varepsilon \in (p, q)$.

§3. Everything is now prepared for investigation of game (1) using the altered integral. Let us represent by $C(t, \tau)$ ($t \geq \tau$) the matrixant of the homogeneous system $y = A(t)y$ (for a definition of a matrixant and its properties, see [9]). We recall only that if measurable controls $u(\cdot), v(\cdot)$ ($u(\tau) \in P(\tau), v(\tau) \in Q(\tau)$) are fixed in the sector $[t_0, t]$, then according to the Cauchy formula

$$z(t) = C(t, t_0)z_0 + \int_{t_0}^t C(t, \tau)(-u(\tau) + v(\tau))d\tau.$$

Let us study the altered integral

$$W(t, t_0) = \int_{t_0}^{M, t} [C(t, \tau)P(\tau)d\tau \pm C(t, \tau)Q(\tau)d\tau] \quad (17)$$

where $t \geq t_0$. We will assume that the set $W(t, t_0)$ is not empty with all t, t_0 ($t \geq t_0$). Let us study also vector $C(t, t_0)z_0$ ($t \geq t_0$). Two cases are possible: 1) with no t does vector $C(t, t_0)z_0$ belong to $W(t, t_0)$; 2) there is at least one \bar{t} with which the inclusion

$$C(t, t_0)z_0 \in W(\bar{t}, t_0). \quad (18)$$

is true.

In the first case, we can say nothing concerning the possibility of completion of pursuit from point (z_0, t_0) .

Let us study the second case.

Lemma. There is a minimum \bar{t} for which inclusion (18) is fulfilled.

Proof. There are two possibilities: a) there is a finite number of moments \bar{t} at which inclusion (18) is fulfilled; b) there is an infinite number of moments \bar{t} , at which inclusion (18) is fulfilled. In case "a" everything is clear. In case "b" we can take the decreasing sequence of numbers \bar{t}_i , which converges to the lower bound of all numbers \bar{t} satisfying condition (18). Let us assume that the limit of \bar{t}_i is equal to $t_0 + T(z_0, t_0)$.

For brevity we will write T in place of $T(z_0, t_0)$. Let us take a certain rational subdivision of sector $[t_0, t_0 + T]$. It is generated by the points $\tau_0 = t_0 < \tau_1 < \dots < \tau_k = t_0 + T$. Let us study also the rational subdivisions ω_i of sectors $[t_0, t_i]$, produced from subdivision ω as follows: $\tau_0 = t_0 <$

$\tau_1 < \dots < \tau_{k-1} < \tau_k^i = \bar{\tau}_i$ ($i = 1, \dots$). Thus, they differ from subdivision ω only in the rightmost point.

Let us represent by Σ_ω the integral sum (3) corresponding to subdivision ω with finite set M and

$$U(\tau) = C(t_0 + T, \tau)P(\tau), \quad V(\tau) = C(t_0 + T, \tau)Q(\tau), \quad t_0 \leq \tau \leq t_0 + T.$$

We represent by Σ_{ω_i} the integrals sum (3), corresponding to the division ω_i

($i = 1, 2, \dots$) with finite set M and

$$U_i(\tau) = C(t_0 + \bar{t}_i, \tau)P(\tau), \quad V_i(\tau) = C(t_0 + \bar{t}_i, \tau)Q(\tau), \quad t_0 \leq \tau \leq t_0 + \bar{t}_i.$$

It follows from the definition of \bar{t}_i that $C(\bar{t}_i, t_0)z_0 \in \Sigma_{\omega_i}$.

Let us study the curve $C(t, t_0)z_0$ as a function of parameter t in sector $[t_0, \bar{t}_1]$. Obviously, there is a sphere D with its center at the coordinate origin so large that this curve will be within it where $t_0 \leq t \leq \bar{t}_1$. For the following, it is sufficient to study the set $\Sigma_{\omega_i} \cap D, \Sigma_\omega \cap D$.

Using formula (3) for Σ_{ω_i} and Σ_ω , the even limitation of sets $P(\tau), Q(\tau)$ in $[t_0, \bar{t}_1]$ and the definition of the operation $*$, it is not difficult to prove that Σ_{ω_i} and Σ_ω correspond in sphere D with the integral sums $\Sigma_{\omega_i}(M_1)$ and $\Sigma_\omega(M_1)$ respectively, constructed on the basis of the subdivisions ω_i and ω and the same sets $U_i(\tau), V_i(\tau), U(\tau), V(\tau)$, as $\Sigma_{\omega_i}, \Sigma_\omega$, but with finite set M_1 , where M_1 is a convex compact, independent of the number i and belonging to M . This statement is trivial with limited M and interesting for unlimited M . It follows from the above that $C(t_i, t_0)z_0 \in \Sigma_{\omega_i}(M_1)$. We note that $\Sigma_{\omega_i}(M_1) \subset \Sigma_{\omega_i}, \Sigma_\omega(M_1) \subset \Sigma_\omega$.

Let us now study set $\Sigma_{\omega_i}(M_1)$ as a function of \bar{t}_i . Using the upper semi-continuity of operation $*$ relative to inclusions (see paragraph 2, "E"), it is easy to prove that the fixed ϵ can be used to find a number $N(\epsilon)$, such that $i > N(\epsilon)$

$$C(\bar{t}_i, t_0)z_0 \in \Sigma_{\omega_i}(M_1) + S_\epsilon \subset \Sigma_\omega + S_\epsilon. \quad (19)$$

where S_ϵ is a sphere of radius ϵ with its center at the coordinate origin. From inclusion (19) it is not difficult to see that $C(t_0 + T, t_0)z_0 \in \Sigma_\omega + S_\epsilon$. Since ω was an arbitrary rational subdivision of sector $[t_0, t_0 + T]$, while ϵ is an arbitrary positive number, it follows from this that

$$C(t_0 + T, t_0)z_0 \in W(t_0 + T, t_0), \quad (20)$$

which was to be proven.

Theorem. Pursuit can be completed from point z_0, t_0 in time $T(z_0, t_0)$ if the pursuer knows control $v(s)$ of the evader at each moment t on sector $t \leq s \leq t + \epsilon$ ($\epsilon > 0$ is arbitrary).

The basis of the reality of this hypothesis of information in the hands of the pursuer is presented in [4].

Proof. According to our assumption, the pursuer knows the control of the evader in sector $[t_0, t_0 + \epsilon]$; suppose this control is $v(\cdot)$ ($v(\tau) \in Q(\tau)$ where $t_0 \leq \tau \leq t_0 + \epsilon$).

Without limiting generality, we can consider $\epsilon \leq T(z_0, t_0)$. Subsequently to simplify our inscription, let us write T in place of $T(z_0, t_0)$. Using inclusion (12) for the altered integral $W(t, t_0)$ (see (17)), we produce

$$W(t_0 + T, t_0) \subset (W(t_0 + T, t_0 + \epsilon) + \int_{t_0}^{t_0 + \epsilon} C(t_0 + T, \tau) P(\tau) d\tau) \pm \int_{t_0}^{t_0 + \epsilon} C(t_0 + T, \tau) Q(\tau) d\tau,$$

from which, using the definition of the operation \pm (see paragraph 2, "B"), we easily produce the inclusion

$$W(t_0 + T, t_0) \subset W(t_0 + T, t_0 + \epsilon) + \int_{t_0}^{t_0 + \epsilon} C(t_0 + T, \tau) P(\tau) d\tau - \int_{t_0}^{t_0 + \epsilon} C(t_0 + T, \tau) v(\tau) d\tau.$$

from which and from formula (20) it follows that a measurable control $u(\cdot)$ ($t_0 \leq \tau \leq t_0 + \epsilon$, $u(\tau) \in P(\tau)$) is found such that

$$C(t_0 + T, t_0)z_0 - \int_{t_0}^{t_0+T} C(t_0 + T, \tau)u(\tau)d\tau + \int_{t_0}^{t_0+T} C(t_0 + T, \tau)v(\tau)d\tau \in W(t_0 + T, t_0 + \varepsilon). \quad (21)$$

As we know (see [9]), matrixant $C(t, t_0)$ has the property $C(t, t_0) = C(t, t_1)C(t_1, t_0)$, where $t_0 \leq t_1 \leq t$.

Using this property, we produce from formula (21)

$$C(t_0 + T, t_0 + \varepsilon)(C(t_0 + \varepsilon, t_0)z_0 - \int_{t_0}^{t_0+T} C(t_0 + \varepsilon, \tau)u(\tau)d\tau + \int_{t_0}^{t_0+T} C(t_0 + \varepsilon, \tau)v(\tau)d\tau) = C(t_0 + T, t_0 + \varepsilon)z(\varepsilon) \in W(t_0 + T, t_0 + \varepsilon).$$

From which it follows that for point $(z(\varepsilon), t_0 + \varepsilon)$, the inequality $T(z(\varepsilon), t_0 + \varepsilon) \leq T - \varepsilon$ is correct. Thus, we have decreased time $T(z_0, t_0)$ by at least ε in time ε . Performing similar steps further, the pursuer will complete pursuit in a time $\leq T(z_0, t_0)$ (we note that $W(t, t) = M$).

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